

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /074 W
----- 123045

O 221040Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0974

UNCLAS KINSHASA 0591

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, OTRA, OCON, PGOV

SUBJ: MOBUTU ADDRESSEES AAI CONFERENCE AT KINSHASA

REF: KINSHASA 562

SUMMARY

IN 30-MINUTE SPEECH TO OPENING SESSION OF THE 5TH AFRO-AMERICAN INSTITUTE CONFERENCE AT KINSHASA JANUARY 21, PRESIDENT MOBUTU EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR PAST U.S. HELP, CRITICIZED CURRENT US POLICY TOWARDS LFRJBA, EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER EASUM'S DEPARTURE AND SURPRISE AT DAVIS' NOMINATION NOTED SHIFT IN WORLD BALANCE, CALLED FOR COMMERCIAL AND MONETARY JUSTICE AND END TO ECONOMIC DOMINATION, EXPLAINED ZAIRE'S NEW DIRECTIONS IN DOMESTIC POLICY, AND REASSURED FOREIGN INVESTORS. SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:

1. U.S. AFRICAN POLICY

FOLLOWING A TRIBUTE TO US FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF 1960 UN OPERATIONS IN ZAIRE, MOBUTU TOOK US TO TASK FOR AFRICA POLICY WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS "PASSIVE", ONE OF "STATUS QUO", "FAIT ACCOMPPA". SAID US HAD DONE NOTHING TO

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HELP AFRICA FREE HERSELF, HAD IN FACT SOMETIMES HINDERED--

RHODESIAN CHROME, FOR EXAMPLE. US PRESIDENTS SPOKE OF OTHER CONTINENTS BUT NOT AFRICA. NO SECRETARY OF STATE HAD RECEIVED A CHIEF OF AN AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT.

2. SPEAKING OF DEPARTURE OF AMBASSADOR EASUM AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS, MOBUTU SAID:

"I MUST EXPRESS TO YOU A GRAVE CONCERN OF AFRICA WITH RESPECT TO YOUR COUNTRY. ALL AFRICAN LEADERS HAD WELCOMED THE APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR EASUM AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS. THIS GREAT DIPLOMAT HAS A RICH EXPERIENCE OF AFRICA. HE HAS A FAIR VIEW OF THE PROBLEMS OF DECOLONIZATION AND APARTHEID. BUT, MOST OF ALL, HE HAS A GREAT QUALITY-- THAT OF LISTENING TO HIS INTERLOCUTORS. HE IS EAGER TO KNOW AND TO INFORM HIMSELF, AND NOT TO GIVE ORDERS. WE WERE GREATLY SURPRISED NOT ONLY TO LEARN THAT HE WAS LEAVING BUT ALSO-AND ABOVE ALL--WHEN WE LEARNED THAT HIS REPLACEMENT IS THE FORMER AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO CHILE AT THE TIME OF THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT ALLENDE".

3. WORLD BALANCE. NOTING ALLEGED BIG POWER REGRET OF MASSIVE ENTRY OF SMALL STATES INTO UN, MOBUTU ASSERTED NECESSITY THEIR BEING THERE. NOTED SHIFT IN WORLD BALANCE, NEW PROMINENCE OF ARAB WORLD AND URGENCY OF SUPPRESSING "ECONOMIC DOMINATION" AND "COMMERCIAL AND MONETARY INJUSTICE".

4. WHITHER ZAIRE? EXPLAINING NEW DEPARTURES IN DOMESTIC POLICY, MOBUTU SAID ZAIRE REFUSES TO CHOOSE BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND CAPITALISM, HE CRITICIZED MARX'S VIEWS ON COLONIALISM SYSTEMS NOT IMPORTANT. ZAIRE SEEKS TO CREATE NEW SOCIETY FOR SKE OF ZAIRIAN CITIZEN WHO IS CENTER OF NEW REVOLUTION. ZAIRE BELIEVES IN LIBERTY, BUT NOT LICENSE. RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE DEFINED. ZAIRE VALUES PROGRESS BUT DOES NOT BELIEVE IN WASTEFUL CONSUMPTION. MOBUTU SAID FOREIGN INVESTMENT WELCOME ON TERMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, AND ON CONDITION FULL RESPECT FOR ZAIRIAN LAW. THOSE INVESTORS IN ZAIRE UNDER INVESTMENT CODE WILL BE FULLY PROTECTED AND ENCOURAGED. THEIR INTERESTS WILL ALWAYS BE SAFEGUARDED, SO LONG AS THEIR INTERESTS COINCIDE WITH THOSE OF ZAIRE.

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ZAIRE IS AWARE, SAID MOBUTU, THAT ONE DOES NOT ATTRACT FLIES WITH VINEGAR BUT WITH HONEY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KINSHA00591
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750024-0009
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750131/aaaabavq.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KINSHASA 562
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by RuthemTJ>; APPROVED <18 FEB 2004 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOBUTU ADDRESSEES AAI CONFERENCE AT KINSHASA
TAGS: OTRA, OCON, PGOV, PFOR, CG, US, AAI, (MOBUTO SESE SEKO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006